

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 6-10.

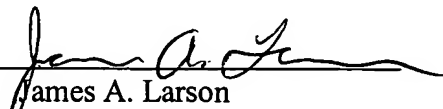
Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Michael D. Schumann (Reg. No. 30,422), at (612) 336.4638.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 17 March 2004

By   
James A. Larson  
Reg. No. 30,443

MDS:JAL:hjm